



NO. 1594.

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, AUGUST 29, 1898.

ONE CENT.

IN THE DISTRICT CAMP

How Our Troops Are Faring
at Montauk Point.

DEATH OF SERGT. FERREE

It is Attributed as Much to Starvation as to Typhoid Fever—The Unfortunate Soldier Was Unable to Recover From the Treatment He Received on Board the Transport En Route From Washington Arrives, But Does Not Establish Headquarters and Cannot Do Much Until the Boys Are Released From Detention Camp—Many Visitors From the Capital Arrive, But Are Denied Permission to Enter the Lines, Owing to the Strict Quarantine.

Camp Wikoff, Montauk Point, N. Y., Aug. 28.—Beyond the gloom occasioned by the death of Sergt. Newton Ferree, the District troops are highly pleased with their new camp, the way they are treated and the prospect of being speedily mustered out. To use their own expression, they are living like fighting cocks.

After their rough experience in Cuba, and still rougher on board the transports en route from Santiago, it was like a dream realized for them to sit down to supper tonight and face a menu like this:

Their Supper Menu.
Two quarts of milk each.
Eggs, steak, potatoes and canned goods.
Coffee with cream and sugar.
White bread with butter.
Soup, cake and oranges.

An epicure might not agree with the way that bill of fare was sorted into courses, but the boys did, and the vast bulk of the camp in the commissary department is very sufficient evidence of a long hungry spell.

Suffering En Route.
But it will take weeks of such treatment as the regiment is receiving to even temporarily efface from memory the suffering—more deplorable because unnecessary—the troops endured while en route from Santiago on the transports. The soldiers are very bitter in their denunciation of the treatment they received on the voyage.

There is no reserve in attributing Second Sergt. Ferree's death as much to starvation as to the typhoid fever from which he was suffering. Had he been given the proper medical attention while in the first stages of the disease his life might have been saved.

Upon arriving at Montauk he was given every possible care and attention, but the unfortunate soldier could not recover from the effects of the previous privation and lack of proper medical attention.

Mrs. Ferree Arrives.
His brother, First Sergt. F. Ferree, also of Company K, was with him to the last. He is indignant over the circumstances attending the death of his brother.

Mrs. Ferree, the dead volunteer's mother, arrived here this afternoon with two friends. They were on their way to the hospital to get a furlough for Ferree, when they were met by two cavalrymen who had just come from the hospital, and who broke the news to them.

Mrs. Ferree was completely prostrated by her son's death, and a physician had to be summoned to attend her.

Are You Satisfied?

Do you like the form and terms of the insurance policy you now hold?

Perhaps I could arrange a much more satisfactory one for you without cost.

I am a dealer in insurance and know all about the leading companies, their rates, their advantages, and when one surpasses the other.

I think I could be of use to you, and if I cannot you will be at no expense. Come and see me.

T.D. Haddaway

No. 519 Fourteenth St.

P. O. Box 503.

advt.—submit

The superior quality of our lumber is remarked by all who visit our yards. Libbey & Co., lumber, etc., 6th & N.Y. av.

The body will be taken to Washington tomorrow.

In the Hospital.
One hundred and eighteen of the District troops are in the general hospital, but all are doing well, and the greater part of them may be expected to join their comrades in camp before the end of the week.

Only a small percentage of the invalids are suffering from fever or other serious illness. Most of them had to be sent to the hospital to recover from the treatment they received en route from Cuba. Not more than ten are in any immediate danger.

Lieut. Hayes, Lieut. Bell and Major Hines are improving under excellent medical attendance, and are thought to be out of danger.

Visitors From Washington.
The regiment is still under strict quarantine and no one is permitted to enter the lines under any consideration. This is the most severe trial the troops are now subjected to.

There was a big crowd of Washington visitors here today, and the knowledge of their presence made the boys exceedingly restless. The best they could do was to yell their "hellos" at great distance, which was some little satisfaction, but not much.

The visitors were no less disappointed than the soldiers, since they had come with great loads of delicacies, expecting to grasp the hands of their old friends, whom last they saw marching to war down Pennsylvania Avenue.

Small Gifts of Love.
The dainties to eat and other marks of remembrance, such as tobacco and cigarettes and nice things to wear, got through the quarantine all right, however, and tonight before taps the boys were lying around their tents sending up huge rolls of smoke from treasured pipes, cigars and other similar supplies, thinking how nice it is to be back in "God's country again," as they express it, "splitting up" with their less fortunate comrades who were not remembered by their friends at home, or had no friends to remember them, perhaps.

Seven Companies in Camp.
The seven companies of the District regiment now in detention camp include a total of but 316 men. Maj. O'Brien is in command. He is very anxious about the health of his men, and the promptness with which they are expected to be mustered out. He believes his command will be ready for disbandment within a week.

The third battalion, now en route from Santiago, has not yet been heard from. It is expected some time tomorrow. Its appearance is anxiously awaited by the boys already here, who, by virtue of their own experience, are in a position to appreciate the hardships likely to be thrust upon those of their comrades who are still aboard transports somewhere between here and Santiago.

Yellow, Thin and Ragged.
One would hardly recognize in the yellow, thin-faced and ragged troops now encamped here the enthusiastic, hearty looking boys who left the capital but a few weeks ago.

They were a sorry looking lot of men, as they walked down the gangplank from the pestship Hudson, but a few hours of rest and good food has worked wonders in the matter of appearance and spirits. They are rapidly recuperating in health, and two weeks will put them on their feet.

How They Are Treated Now.
It is supposed to be in pursuance of orders left by Secretary Alger that the District boys are now better treated and better fed than the other organizations in Camp Wikoff. Their rations include the very best food procurable, their quarters are excellently provided, and the treatment they are accorded is the envy of other less fortunate regiments.

The boys are highly pleased with everything about them, even the water, and don't want to be worried about at home. Frequently their camp bursts into a hilarious uproar, and they cheer everybody and everything they can remember while the cheering notion is on them.

This demonstration is occasioned by involuntary comparison of their past treatment and condition with the life they are enjoying now.

The Committee Arrives.
The committee from Washington, sent to examine into the condition of the regiment arrived this morning, but has not yet established headquarters. Very little can be done until the quarantine is raised, which will not be before Tuesday. Then the committee will be extended every possible privilege, and the military authorities have received instructions from Washington to render any assistance at their disposal.

The committee will arrange plans tomorrow, and when it is permitted within the lines, or rather, when the District troops have been released from detention camp, they will be fairly overwhelmed with attention.

HASTINGS.

AN AMERICAN SOLUTION.

United States Offers Capital for the Tien-Tsin-Chin-Kiang Railway.
Peking, Aug. 28.—The French, Italian and Dutch ministers have formally demanded, in behalf of their respective nationalities, chairs in Martin's American University.

Yang Wing, the Americanized Chinaman, who is deeply interested in railroads, states that an American firm has offered to supply the capital for the work on the concession for the Tien-Tsin-Chin-Kiang Railway.

He adds that the Germans are willing to join in the construction of the road if the line will go through the province of Shantung.

310 To Niagara Falls and Return \$10 via Pennsylvania Railroad.
Special train with coaches and parlor cars will leave Washington 7:35 a. m. September 1, 15, and 23. Tickets, limited to ten days, allow stopover at Buffalo, Rochester and Watkins returning. Annual Exposition at Toronto, August 20 to September 10.

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White oak; clear, dry, seasoned, 4c ft.

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ALL THE WORLD AT PEACE

The Czar Proposes a Universal Disarmament.

SUPREME DUTY OF NATIONS

A Conference of Representatives of All Governments Who Are Accredited to the Imperial Court is Suggested, to Occupy Itself With the Grave Problem of Concluding the Terms of a General and Lasting Brotherhood of the Peoples of the Earth, Which Would Be, Nicholas Says, "By the Help of God, a Happy Presage of the Century Which is About to Open." The Daily News Says That England's Acceptance Must Be a Foregone Conclusion.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 28.—The Official Messenger yesterday published the following:

"By order of the Czar Count Muraviev, minister of foreign affairs, on Wednesday handed to all the foreign representatives in St. Petersburg the following communication:

"The maintenance of general peace and the possible reduction of the excessive armaments which weigh upon all nations present themselves in the existing condition of the world as an ideal towards which the endeavors of all governments should be directed. His majesty, the emperor, my august master, has been won over to this view.

The Moment is Favorable.
"In the conviction that this lofty aim is in conformity with the most essential interests and legitimate views of all the powers, the imperial government thinks the moment would be very favorable to seeking, by means of international discussion, the most effective means of insuring to all peoples the benefits of real and durable peace, and, above all, of putting an end to the progressive development of the present armaments.

"In the course of the last twenty years the longings for general appeasement have grown especially pronounced in the consciences of civilized nations. The preservation of peace has been put forward as the object of international policy. It is in its name that the great states have concluded between themselves powerful alliances. It is the better to guarantee peace that they have developed, in proportions hitherto unprecedented, their military forces, and still continue to increase them without shrinking from any sacrifice.

"All these efforts, nevertheless, have not yet been able to bring about the beneficent results of the desired pacification.

The Financial Side.
"Financial changes, following an upward march, strike at public property and at the very source of intellectual and physical strength. Nations' labor and capital are, for the major part, diverted from their natural application and unproductively consumed. Hundreds of millions are devoted to acquiring terrible engines of destruction, which, though today regarded as the last word of science, are destined tomorrow to lose all value in consequence of some fresh discovery in the same field. National culture, economic progress and the production of wealth are either paralyzed or checked in development.

Armed Peace a Crushing Burden.
"Economic crises, due in great part to the system of armaments a fourfold, under the continual danger which lies in the massing of war material, are transferring the armed peace of our day into a crushing burden which the peoples have more and more difficulty in bearing.

"It appears evident, then, that if this state of things is prolonged, it will inevitably lead to the very cataclysm which it is desired to avert, and the horrors of which makes every thinking being shudder in advance.

"To put an end to these incessant armaments and to seek a means of warding off the calamities that are threatening the whole world, is a supreme duty which today is imposed on all states.

"Filled with this idea, his majesty has been pleased to order that I propose to all governments whose representatives are accredited to the imperial court the meeting of a conference which would have to occupy itself with this grave problem.

A Happy Presage.
"This conference would be, by the help of God, a happy presage of the century which is about to open. It would converge in one powerful focus the efforts of all the states which are sincerely seeking to make the great conception of universal peace triumph over the elements of trouble and discord.

"It would, at the same time, cement an agreement by a corporate consecration of the principles of equity and right, on which rest the security of states and the welfare of the peoples."

APPLAUSE AND DISTRUST.

The Roman Press Thinks Germany and Austria Were First Consulted.

Rome, Aug. 28.—The proposal of the Czar for the holding of an international conference to provide for a general disarmament by all the powers is much commented upon by the press here.

The comments are divided between applause and distrust. It is believed that he obtained the adhesion of Germany and Austria before writing the communication issued by the Russian foreign minister.

THE CZAR HATES MILITARY.

It is Said That Cavite and Santiago Horrified Him.

London, Aug. 28.—The Paris correspondent of the Daily News says that he has

interviewed a diplomatist who knows the Czar.

He said that his majesty hates military and cannot bear to be about with a military escort. Confiding, the diplomatist said:

"We may be sure that Cavite and Santiago horrifies him."

The Daily Mail, commenting editorially on the Czar's proposal, says that by his message the Czar has acquired a more righteous and more enduring fame than belongs to the proudest conqueror of his house.

There is no quarter whence such a manifesto could come and make a more profound impression. He cannot be suspected of self-interest.

It may be taken for granted, as a matter of course, that the British government will accept the invitation to take part in the conference.

ENGLAND MADE NO ADVANCES.
Halfour is Not Sanguine of the Success of the Project.

London, Aug. 28.—Replying yesterday to a question asked in the House of Commons by Sir Wilfred Lawson, Mr. Balfour, the government leader in the house, said that no communication suggesting mutual disarmament had been made by the British government to other governments.

He added that he did not think such a suggestion could be made with any hope of a successful result.

FALSEHOODS, ALGER SAYS

No Starvation and Little Sickness in the Camp.

INQUIRIES TO BE ORDERED

The War Secretary Declares That Montauk Will Not Be Abandoned. That the Men Are Comfortable and Well Fed, and That the Stories of Deaths From Starvation Are Newspaper Inventions—He Will Order Investigations of Some Branches of the Service, But Knows of No Reason Why His Own Conduct of the Department Should Be Inquired Into—He Cares Nothing for What Mr. Sherman Says.

Secretary Alger, of the War Department, has entirely recovered from the slight indisposition that followed his sojourn of two days at Camp Wikoff, Montauk Point, Long Island, where soldiers, returned sick and wounded from Cuba, are known to have died of exhaustion and starvation as the result of official incompetence and neglect.

The Secretary will not admit that his illness was due to the fact that he, a well and strong man, had eaten of the coarse food supplied for the nourishment of sick soldiers and had drunk water containing germs of disease. On the contrary, he is inclined to insist that the soldiers at Montauk Point are living on the quality of the land, that the reports of sickness, starvation, and death at Montauk are newspaper inventions, pure and simple.

Secretary Alger was occupying a luxuriously upholstered easy chair in the drawing room of his residence, No. 1603 K Street, and was puffing a fragrant Havana cigar when a Times reporter called to see him last night. He was pale and his pallor was evidently the effect of his recent indisposition, not of the cigar, the aroma of which indicated that the quality of the tobacco was first class, fully as good, at any rate, as is issued to the army.

"Mr. Secretary, some of the newspapers this morning stated that orders would be issued by the War Department to abandon the Montauk Point camp because of the sickness there and as a result of your personal investigation of its conditions. Is that correct?" was asked.

"It is not," was the Secretary's reply. Continuing, he said:

Montauk "All Right."
"The camp at Montauk Point is all right. It was designed to be merely a detention camp for the returning troops, a kind of resting place, as it were, for the men who had undergone the hardships of a severe campaign. I found that the conditions were beautiful, and that the location was all that could be desired.

"There is an abundance of pure water, one arduous well alone supplying 750,000 gallons a day. There are five miles of piping by which water is carried to all parts of the camp. Although this is a sufficient supply for all the needs of the camp, we are sinking another well and are extending the piping to make assurance doubly sure. The camp will not be abandoned. There is no reason why it should be."

The Men "Comfortable."
"Mr. Secretary," said the reporter, "I have been charged that many of the men at Montauk have been compelled to lie on the damp ground, with no protection from the moisture of either earth or atmosphere, and that the condition of hundreds of the sick has been aggravated by the neglect of the War Department to furnish the necessary materials for their protection."

"That is not true," Secretary Alger replied. "I personally inspected the encampment of the Thirtieth Regiment, regular infantry, accompanied by its commanding officer, Col. Smith. I noticed that in many of the tents the men were lying on their ponchos, spread on the ground and were covered by their blankets. I asked Col. Smith why his men were not using the bags of hay and straw furnished by the quartermaster's department, to protect them from the damp earth. He replied that he did not know that the department had ever furnished such bags."

"I informed him that I personally knew that 20,000 such bags had been ordered to the camp at Montauk Point, and told him that, as a regular army officer, it was his duty to have known that such bags were available upon his requisition."

"This was the only case of the kind that I discovered. Even the men who slept on the ground were more comfortable than we were during the Civil War. Why, I have slept on the ground many a time without the protection of either poncho or blanket."

"Little Sickness, No Starvation."
"Did you find that there was much sickness at Montauk, or any lack of food for the soldiers?" was asked.

"There was very little sickness and no lack of food," was the reply. "All those stories of disease and death from lack of nourishment are newspaper inventions. The death rate at Montauk and at all the other camps has been low compared with the records of camps during the rebellion."

Notwithstanding the Secretary's declaration that there is no starvation and comparatively little sickness in the camps, the daily hospital records—official army records at that—show that men are dying and have died from exhaustion due to starvation. Those records are not newspaper inventions.

"McClellan had 120,000 men encamped in his army and the camp was actually in a swamp. The statistics show that his men were invalided by sickness at the rate of 1,000 a day, yet that unfortunate record did not create anything like the sensation that far less serious conditions have recently created under the influence of sensational newspapers."

"The stories that soldiers have been starved in our camp at Montauk and in

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